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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/757,755	01/09/2001	Alberto Jimenez Feltstrom	34650-534PT	8056

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EXAMINER

CRAVER, CHARLES R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2682

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/757,755

Applicant(s)

FELTSTROM, ALBERTO JIMENEZ

Examiner

Charles R. Craver

Art Unit

2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-23 and 25-33 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11-13 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4-9, 11 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gans et al.

Claims 1, 5-8 and 24 : Gans discloses a method for handling interference that is disturbing a desired signal, comprising

providing a signal comprising a desired component and an interference component (Sout),

estimating the interference component, applying it to the signal to obtain a desired signal, forwarding and feeding back the desired signal and using it to adjust the interference estimate (col 3 line 44-col 4 line 19 col 15 lines 5-51).

Claim 4: since Gans discloses use in a wireless system (col 15 lines 52-57), the signal would thus be indirectly from a mobile station microphone. **Claim 9:** Gans discloses sending the harmonic replica as a real (time domain) signal to the summer. **Claim 11:** Gans discloses a summer (18) which adds a negative of the interference replica signal S2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 3 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gans as applied to claim 1 above.

Claim 2 and 3: While disclosing applicant's invention of claim 1 above, Gans fails to disclose GSM or 217 Hz interference (aka 'bumble bee' interference).

However, GSM was notoriously well-known in the art at the time of the invention, and as such the examiner takes Official Notice of such a feature, asserting that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use Gans in a GSM system, since GSM was widely used and popular at the time. Further, such an interfering signal would have been an obvious use for Gans to one of ordinary skill in the art, since Gans discloses mitigating interference, and a 217 Hz component would thus fall into the definition of interference used by Gans when used in a GSM system.

Claim 12: Gans discloses forwarding the desired signal to pre-transmission circuitry (62, 64 etc); since Gans discloses that the method may be used in a cellular base station, it would have been an obvious modification to use such in a mobile station, as it would provide the same quality of transmission in the mobile station as in the base station.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gans as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hays, US Pat 5,396,189.

While disclosing means to feedback the desired component through a BPF 65 to adjust the interference component estimate (col 15 lines 5-51), Gans fails to disclose a plurality of filters and outputs.

Hays discloses that a number of BPF's may be used in a circuit like that taught by Gan if the wanted signal comprises more than one carrier (col 6 line 67-col 7 line 38).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use more than one BPF to adjust the feedback mechanism of Gans to provide better accuracy when more than one signal is wanted.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-33 are allowed.

Claims 10 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 14 teaches towards a method for removing interference by separating a signal into a wanted and interfering signal, generating an interference time-domain signal using a harmonic generator to create a signal estimate, subtracting the interference signal from the original signal and feeding back to left-over signal to adjust the harmonic generation, wherein the feeding back includes adjusting a plurality of weights each corresponding to an addend of a Fourier sum corresponding to a

harmonic of a fundamental of the interference component. Claim 10 teaches that the step for creating the interference estimation involves using harmonics of the fundamental and weighting addends of a fourier series. Claim 20 teaches towards a similar method using a plurality of band-pass filters centered each around a harmonic of the interference component. Claim 28 teaches towards performing the steps of feeding back the desired signal to adjust the harmonic generation when it is detected that there is an absence of voice activity in the signal.

Claim 25 discloses a method for handling interference that is disturbing a desired signal, comprising providing a signal comprising a desired component and an interference component, filtering the signal to produce a bandpass filtered signal around the expected fundamental of the interference portion, generating harmonics of the interference signal and estimating the overall interference component, involving steps of determining the fundamental frequency, and applying the generated interference estimate to the signal to produce the desired signal.

Claims 15, 16 and 30 disclose an apparatus for handling interference that is disturbing a desired signal, comprising means for providing a signal comprising a desired component and an interference component, a filter/frequency determiner for filtering the signal to produce a bandpass filtered signal around the expected fundamental of the interference portion, a harmonic interference component generator for generating harmonics of the interference signal and estimating the overall interference component involving steps of determining the fundamental frequency, and

Art Unit: 2682

means for applying the generated interference estimate to the signal via two inputs in order to produce an estimate of the desired signal.

Claim 33 teaches towards a means in a mobile station for removing interference by separating a signal into a wanted and interfering signal, generating an interference time-domain signal using a harmonic generator to create a signal estimate, subtracting the interference signal from the original signal and feeding back to left-over signal to adjust the harmonic generation, wherein the interference is "bumble bee" interference and the original signal is a microphone signal.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles R. Craver whose telephone number is 571-272-7849. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick Corsaro can be reached on 571-272-7868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2682

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cc
7/11/05


CHARLES CRAVER
PRIMARY EXAMINER